



Town of Grand Rapids

2410 48th Street South
Wisconsin Rapids WI 54494
(715) 424-1821
www.tn.grandrapids.wi.gov

June 2006

Office

Clerk.....Kathy Alft, CMC
Treasurer.....Kris Ginter
Admin Secretary.....Jewell Ninneman
Secretary.....Peggy Doughty

Planning & Zoning

Bldg Insp/Zoning AdminCarl Roehl

Police/Fire Protection

Fire Chief.....Scott Bernette
Police ChiefGreg Staniforth
Officers.....Steve Slinkman
Dennis Krause
Rob Wiltse

Public Works

Jim Eichhorn
Rick Austin
Michael Smith
Al Bey
Steve Downs

Town Board

Thomas M. Buss, Chair
Arne Nystrom
Jeanne Fehrman
David Hartjes

Monthly Meetings

Town Board

- 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month 6:30 p.m.

Planning Commission

- 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month 6:30 p.m.

Fire Department

- 1st Mondays of the month 7:00 p.m.

* meeting dates
subject to change ...
call the Municipal
Building to confirm
dates, time, and
location *

KEEPING RUMMAGE

SALES SAFE – AS WELL

AS PROFITABLE AND FUN

– REQUIRES SOME COMMON SENSE.

Town Board Supervisors, mainly because of safety concerns and residents' complaints, have the following safety suggestions:

- Customers approaching a sale, until safely parked, should avoid the tendency to be distracted by what and who are at the sale and in so doing, disregard other traffic.
- Signal intent to slow down, stop, turn, or pull into traffic.
- Park sensibly, off the pavement where possible. Park down the road a bit if necessary to prevent making the road too narrow for others to safely pass at normal speed.
- Don't assume traffic will see you as you get in or out of your car. Likewise, when crossing or walking along a road, particularly between cars, where you may not be visible to traffic.

Signs should be readable and attractive. When they aren't, some see them as a nuisance; or worse – a hazard because some drivers slow down to read small or poorly printed signs. Signs may NOT be on utility poles or on street signs or traffic sign posts. Signs may be on private property, but only with the owner's permission.

Town employees will continue to remove illegal or hazardous signs without notice. Flagrant or frequent violators could be issued citations under the Zoning Ordinance.



Road Construction season is upon us ... please respect the efforts of our construction workers and adhere to detour signs.

DID YOU KNOW YOUR BIKE
IS TO BE REGISTERED?

It shall be unlawful for any person to operate a bicycle upon any street in the Town of Grand Rapids unless the bicycle is registered. Registrations are serially numbered and kept on file as a public record.

- ✓ No bicycle shall be used to carry more persons at one time than the number for which it is designed and equipped.
- ✓ Persons operating bicycles shall observe all traffic signs and signals as required by such signs and signals.
- ✓ Persons operating bicycles shall ride single file; and unless preparing to make a left turn, every person operating a bicycle shall ride within three (3) feet of the right side of the traveled roadway (**with traffic**).
- ✓ No person shall operate any bicycle upon any part of any public highway or sidewalk in such manner as to interfere with the rights of other persons using such highway or sidewalk.

Any person sixteen (16) years or older who shall violate local bicycle regulations could be issued citations under Town Ordinance #17.



PUBLIC SAFETY

From the desk of the Police Chief...

Identity Theft ... most of us has heard about it in the news. Many have fallen victim to this fast growing crime. Identity theft has increased to near epidemic levels, affecting 500,000 to 700,000 victims annually. While you cannot totally control whether you will become a victim, there are measures you can take to minimize the risk.

In the home, keep personal information safe. Don't keep PINS (personal identification numbers) near your checkbook, ATM or debit card. Consider investing in a paper shredder for use in discarding personal and financial documents. Be cautious and refuse to divulge any confidential information to anyone who may call, send an e-mail, or merely mail correspondence, requesting information regarding your credit account numbers, social security card numbers, maiden name, etc. Unless you initiated the contact with a business, the aforementioned information should **never** be released. If shopping online, verify that where your purchase is made is indeed a secure site. Religiously examine your bank statements to ensure no questionable purchases have been made from your account.

While away from home, take a good look at the contents of your purse/ wallet. Many of us have numerous credit cards, however only use one or two on a frequent basis. Consider "carrying light." That is, only keep your card(s) that you know you will be using, placing other cards in a secure place at home. Remember to take your credit card slip when making a purchase and do not discard a slip at a store's wastebasket, as identity thieves will many times sift through these cans, searching for receipts.

Finally, on a periodic basis, conduct personal credit checks to ensure that your financial accounts are in good standing.

Should you become the victim of identity theft, first and foremost contact your credit companies to begin the process of placing a fraud alert report on your account(s). Secondly, contact law enforcement authorities to file a police report, as credit companies will require this to validate your claim. Should you have any questions regarding identity theft, please feel free to contact me at the Grand Rapids Police Department, telephone number 424-1821.

Greg Staniforth, Police Chief

From the desk of the Fire Chief...

Spring fire season is now over. Wildland, grass, and brush fires are down from last year at this time in our area per the DNR. We would like to thank the residents for taking the time to get a burning permit and following the rules and regulations set forth by the DNR and our Town Ordinances.

In March of this year we updated our department bylaws and constitutions. These changes were approved by the department and town board. In these changes, we added several new officer positions to our department; including a 2nd Assistant Chief in charge of department safety & training, RIT/Associate Member Training Officer, and two new Lieutenants positions. As a result, our department structure has 10 officers, 30 members, and 11 associate members trained, or in training, to respond to calls in our coverage areas.

The department has now received formal documentation on their ISO rating. The department ISO rating was a Class 7 and had been upgraded to a Class 6. The effective date of this change will be August 1, 2006. This new rating should help to maintain or even lower your fire insurance based on how far you live from the station.

Scott Bernette, Fire Chief

